The widening of the approach road at Bandra Station is held up due to the encroachments by hutment dwellers, for which the matter is pending in the Supreme Court. The approach road at Kurla Terminus will be available, as soon as the proposed road-over-bridge for Santacruz-Chembur Link Road is completed, for which the State Government of Maharashtra has to make arrangements.

Newsitem captioned "India may become a Food Importer by 2030 AJX"

1507. SHRI JOY NADUKKARA: Wll the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the newsitem appearing in the "Times of India", dated the 4th November, 1996 to the effect that India may become a food improter by 2030 A.D.; and

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA): (a) No such newsitem has appeared in the Capital Edition of the Times of India dated the 4th November, 1996. However, as per an article published in the Tribune dated the 21st November, 1996, the World Watch Institute of the U.S.A. is reported to be of the view that India could become a food importer probably by 2030 if the current trend of sacrificing cropland for development continued.

(b) The foodgrain production has shown a rate of increase of 2.89% per annum during the period 1980-81 to 1994-95. The growth rate in foodgrains production being higher than the population growth, the probability of India becoming a net importer of foodgrains is not being contemplated. In order to raise productivity and production of foodgrains, the Government is implementing Integrated Cereals Development Programme for Wheat, Rice and Coarse Cereals besides the National Pulses Development Project.

मध्य प्रदेश में गेज परिवर्तन

1508. श्री राजबब्बर: क्या रेल मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) मध्य प्रदेश से होकर गुजरने वाली किन-किन रेल लाइनों को मीटर लाइन से बड़ी लाइन में बदले जाने का कार्य इस समय चल रहा है;

(ख) अब तक प्रत्येक रेलवे लाइन पर किस हद तक कार्य पूरा कर लिया गया है और शेष कार्य को कब तक पूरा कर लिए जाने की संभावना है;

(ग) ऐसी कौन-कौन सी मीटर लाइन वाली रेलवे लाइनें हैं जिन्हें गेज परिवर्तन हेतु स्वीकृति दी जा चुकी है लेकिन उन पर कार्य अभी तक आरम्भ नहीं किया गया है; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो गेज परिवर्तन के कार्य को आरम्भ किये जाने में विलम्ब के क्या कारण है?

रेल मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री सतपाल महाराज): (क) नीमच-रतलाम मीटर लाइन खण्ड का आमान परिवर्तन का कार्य शुरु किया गया है।

(ख) नीमच-रतलाम खण्ड पर लम्बी अवधि की मदों जैसे पुलों आदि का कार्य शुरू किया गया है। नवीं योजना अवधि में इस कार्य को पूरा करने का लक्ष्य रखा गया है।

(ग) कुछ नहीं।

(घ) प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

Constitution of Recruitment Board by KVS

1509. SHRI GOVINDRAM MIRI:
SHRI N. GIRI PRASAD:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Kendriya Vidyalaya Sangathan (KVS) has recently constituted a Recruitment Board;

(b) if so, the decision in execution of which the said Board has been constituted; and

(c) the legal status as also the functions and jurisdiction thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.